# The Onyx Informer

Northeastern University

Northeastern's Newspaper Designed for People of Color

Ocrober, 1992

## Holloway says goodbye; leaves AAI for new position

By Damola Jegede Onyx Staff

Sydney Holloway, former assistant director for education and counseling services at the African-American Institute (AAI), will be movin' on up the road to Dorchester.

Holloway will now serve as a surrogate father for adolescents, serving the Boston community as director of youth services at the Charles Hayden Goodwill Inn School in Dorchester.

Friends, students and coworkers came to African-American Institute September 25, to wish him well and pay tribute to the man who meant so much to many people.

The impact of Holloway was especially felt by a mistyeyed senior who shared her feelings with the small audience.

"I've always wished for a Dad," said senior Tanya Francois, with tissue in hand. "When I came here in '88, I found what I was looking for,"

"I enjoyed meeting Sydney everyday," said Lula Perty, a co-worker at the African-American Institute. "I'll miss him. We'll remain friends long after he's left Northeastern," after he's left Northeastern,

At the inn school, Holloway will work with adolescents who have emotional and behavioral disorders.

"The move for him at this & point is a good one, working & with a lot of young boys who have problems," said his wife, Gwen Holloway, who is the director of clinical services at Madison Park High School.

Still, the move will not be easy, says Mrs. Holloway.

This is where his heart is, he will continue to come back. The students won't feel deserted," she assured.

Holloway confirmed the sentiments of his wife.

'If you went into my office, it looks like I'm not leaving. The emorional ties that I have here makes leaving difficult," said Holloway.



UP, UP, AND AWAY: Holloway & wife, Gwen, pose one last time at the farewell party at the "Tute".

"He took our fats out of the fire on numerous occasions, said Kurt Harrison, a Ralph Bunche scholar. "We love you. Thank you for everything.

Leon St. will follow suit and

soon become the John D. O'Bry-

ant African-American Institute.

friend and well-known Boston

politician Mel King, was saddened. King channeled that

energy into preserving the

memory of a great man who

committed his life to fighting for

equality and fairness for Boston

change before the Boston School Committee, a committee

that 15 years earlier had elected

O'Bryant the first African-

King proposed the name

school students.

When O'Bryant suddenly died on July 3 this year, personal

"Sydney brought an element to the Institute that it needed," said Petty, who worked with Holloway for seven years at the AAI.

"He was firm, but warm. Sane, but able to understand insanity. He made sense out of chaos," she said of Holloway,

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#### NU remembers O'Bryant Boston Tech, AAI named in his honor

By Azell Murphy Onyx Staff

Two days before his death, John O'Bryant burst into John Curry's office ranting about the young man he met while vacationing with his wife. What had started as a pickup basketball game ended up as a Fall 1992 enrollment of a student of color at Northeastern. John had persuaded the young man to come to Northeastern and could not have been more excited. That's just the type of vice president the late John D. O'Bryant was.

"Many university leaders come into my office to talk about financial situations; John came into my office to talk about people," said university President John Curry at an October 5 memorial service to honor the late John D. O'Bryant or "OB" as he was sometimes

"His legacy is built upon the values he believed in and the principles he lived by," said Karen Rigg, dean of students. "Students were John's thing."

A champion of quality education for Boston students, John D. O'Bryant's legacy has been immortalized as the former Boston Technical High School has adopted a new name: The John D. O'Bryant School of Mathematics and Science. The African-American Institute on 40

called by friends.

American of the committee and later two-term president. The city council immediately brought the idea to Boston Technical High School headmaster Gustave Anglin.

The parent council and I thought it was a great idea," said Anglin, who has been headmaster of the high school for two

"John was one of those people who always thought about education for all kids. Specifically, he was always thinking of black students," said

Anglin said the staff at The John D. O'Bryant School of Math and Science, where 98 percent of the student population is African-American,

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#### **NBSA** Gets Students Rolling

By Byron P. Hurt Onyx Staff

When Northeastern Black Student Association President Quan Smith took a fall last month at Chez Vous Roller Skating Rink in Dorchester, no one who was there really took notice.

What they did notice though, was a night full of fun and excitement at NBSA's second consecutive roller skating party on September 23.

'I enjoyed myself immensely," said junior Allison Booker. "I skated once around and I didn't want to fall so I stopped," she said. "I didn't come last year but I came this year to support (NBSA)."

The event also gave freshmen students a chance to unwind from the event-filled freshmen orientation week, and the anxieties of being away from home.

"I had a good time," said Tangela Cobb, 18, a Communication Studies/ Theater major from Baltimore, MD. "I had gotten a little homesick but tonight helped me get loose," Cobb said.

Some, however, were disappointed in the turnout and thought the event should have been better publicized.

"It went kinda smooth but there were not enough girls for the fellas here," said junior Harold "Tap" Peters. "They should have advertised better."

But NBSA President Quan Smith was satisfied with the way things turned out at Chez Vous and explained why such an event is important for African-American freshmen.

"The purpose is to help the students get acclimated at the university and to meet other students of African-American

descent because attending a predominantly white institution, it's important to know your peers. Students serve as support systems too and in order to successfully matriculare ir is important for us to help each other," said Smith.

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN: Boston Technical High School renamed to honor O'Bryant.

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## Editorials

#### All in the genes

Black people have a peculiar gene or an extra chromosome unique to Africans that predisposes us to acts of violence. So the leaders of this country believe.

President Bush has allocated a budget for a study to prove that violent personalities are genetically transferred. John Goodwin, the government's top psychologist and the muscle behind the study, has been quoted as saying ... "inner city black males are like monkeys in the wild."

Government officials believe the study will lead ro early cure of violent personalities through early detection.

There may be a race in the world that is predisposed to acts of violence but it is not people of African descent. Prior to the kidnapping of thousands of Africans from their homeland, Africans were considered the most loving gentle people on earth. The elderly in Africa were respected and cared for. African women held high political and social statures and entire communities were responsible for the raising of children.

I do not deny a problem of violence

spreading within black communities, although it is not a problem unique to inner cities. But what is important to realize is that it has been only since African-Americans have been schooled in inadequate institutions, squeezed together in substandard housing and exploited as a race that these violent tendencies emerged.

The danger of it all is that some people do not even conceptualize how covertly racist our government is. Here, the government has oppressed a people to the point of reaction and then blame the victim.

As African-American college students in a society dominated by whites it is essential that we conceptualize how our government operates. Spread the news, write your congressmen, join organizations.

If the government has authorized a man who admittedly believes inner city black males are like monkeys in the wild- what will it do next?

- Azell Murphy



- The Office of Minority Liasion is having an Open House on November 9 from 11:30-1:35 in the Ell Center Ballroom. There will be opportunities for networking and door prizes. Refreshments will be served.
- Northeastern's Commuter Referral Service helps students find a
  place to live off campus. The service offers apartment, studio and
  condo listings and rooms in private homes. CRS even provides
  roommate listings. If you are interested in utilizing this service drop
  by 243 Ell Center or please call x4872.
- Do you have ASTHMA? If so, you can earn up to \$1,000 and learn more about asthma by participating in a paid research project at Beth Israel Hospital. For more information, please call 735-2676.
- Have you had at least one co-op experience? If so the Office of Minority Liaison needs you to serve as a co-op buddy for students just beginning the co-op process. If you are interested in being a coop buddy, please call x3441.
- The City of Cambridge Department of Human Service Programs is looking for part-time instructors for computer and health cate classes. Salary is \$13.50 an hour with paid training. For more information, please write to Jo Anne Hartel, Community Learning Center, 19 Brookline St., Cambridge, MA or call City of Cambridge Department of Human Service Programs at 349-6200.
- Latin American Forum: A Month of Activities Celebrating 500 Years of Survival 1492-1992. Forum of issues, discussions and celebration will be ongoing during October and November at Northeastern. For more information, please call x4237 or x4274
- Patrice "Bruiser" and The Onyx Informer's own Byron Hurt will be performing standup comedy each Wednesday night at Estelle's, located at 888 Tremont St. Admission is free and you must be 21 years old and over to drink. Showtime begins at 8:30 p.m.

#### Let us not forget

For starters I'd like to welcome all students of color back to Northeastem University for another of what I hope is a prosperous and challenging school year. For freshmen and transfer students of color attending the university for the first time I'd like to extend my best wishes to you both as fellow students and fellow people of African descent.

As you thumb through the pages of The Onyx Informer you might wonder to yourself, why is there a need for a newspaper for people of color at this university! It is a question asked a thousand times over by whites and African-Americans who don't see a need for such a distinction. Proponents for multi-cultural diversity say racial separation is a thing of our blurred past and only reinforces and perpetuates the problem of racism as we move closer to the 21st century.

Some wonder why there is a need for a Black Histoty Month. Some wonder why there is a National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Or why do African-American periodicals such as Ebony Magazine, Emerge, or The Final Call exist?

What purpose do historically Black colleges and universities serve in an era where integration has become a way of life, do you ask!

Or why do filmakers like Spike Lee, John Singleton and Matty Rich continue to grapple with problems of interacial relationships, utban violence and African-American family values on the big screen?

And finally, why must we have television programs like Tony Brown's Journal, Coming Together, and Like It Is with Gil Noble that continually discuss the plight of the African-American community?

To those of you who find yourself asking these questions, I will provide the following answer for you:

Let us not forget that when the U.S. Constitution was signed on July 4, 1776, We The People was never intended to include the enslaved Africans who built this country through the toil of their exploited labor and whose efforts and contributions were lost, stolen or strayed in most history books.

Let us not forget that we were once considered three-fifths of a man. We were given 40 acres and a mule during the post civil war period and were bound to that land by white landowners who held us down by the neck for years, in debt for

generations, thereby thwarting our economic progress.

Let us not forget that the plight of the African-American community today is a direct result of the legal and historical discrimination against the African-American men and women who walked on this soil far before we were allowed to attend predominantly white universities and colleges.

Let us not forget the countless silent movies written and produced by whites that depicted blacks in so negative a light that we bought into those stereotypes because that was all we were exposed to.

And let us not forget the damaging way in which our communities are being portrayed by the media which is owned and operated primarily by white news directors, producers and reporters.

On September 16, 1992 on the steps of City Hall in New York, 10,000 off-duty police officers protested against David Dinkins, New York's first black Mayor, for his proposal of an all civilian-review board to analyze cases of police misconduct in the City of New York. Dinkins was accused by the police of being procrime, called a crack head, stereotypically drawn with big lips, an afro hairstyle and was called nigger by unlawfully drunken police. The New York Times did not give in-depth coverage of the crude remarks made by the white policemen. Black radio and television programs, BET and The Final Call, a newspaper run by the Nation of Islam, did.

The Onyx Informer, founded in 1972, was developed for reasons like that - to bring students of color significant information about issues around campus and the community that directly affect you. The name Onyx was chosen 20 years ago for this publication because of the nature of the Onyx stone. In its natural state, the stone throws off bands of colors. Africans, African-Americans, West Indians, American Indians, Hispanics and Latinos represent those bands. No other newspaper on campus will do that with as much sincerity, depth, and accuracy as we will during the 1992-93 school year. We will work to provide thought provoking issues and entertaining features on the people of color and organizations that are components of this campus.

And we will do this consistently.

Byron P. Hurt Co-Editor

#### The Onyx Informer

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The views expressed in The Onyx Informer are those of the author and not necessarily those of the administration of Northeastern University or the Onyx Informer Editoria Board.

🛕 O'Bryant Continued from page 1.



NBSA President, Quan Smith, shares memories about O'Bryant. Latino, or Asian are excited and challenged by the name change.

Many said the name change is appropriate for this particular Boston public school because it was an integral part of O'Bryant's history - the place where his career as a student advocate began.

After serving in the United States Atmy, O'Bryant became a teacher and later a guidance counselor at Boston Tech.

Even then, John was always conscious of the things affecting the black school community. He was involved in the black teacher walk out which demanded that more black teachers and administrators be hired," said Anglin, who knew O'Btyant personally.

Upon leaving Boston Public Schools in 1969, John developed the Health Vocational Training Program at the Dimock Community Health Center in Roxbury.

Born and raised in Boston, John founded the Black Educators Alliance of Massachusetts, the Roxbury Multi-Service Center, Bridge, and the Black Political Task

On campus he was the first president of the Black Faculty and Staff Association and nationally, John had just completed organizing a national Black Organization of Black Faculty and Administrators on predominantly white campuses. Being a national figure John was recognized in Jet magazine.

John O'Bryant defined black manhood when we are so often defined by others," said senior Quan Smith, president of Northeastern's Black Student Association.

If John D. O'Bryant was a pillar of strength for the black community it was because he had the support of his family. The father of six sons: John, James, Richard, Paul, Bruce and Norman and husband of thirty-years, O'Bryant made an impression on his family that will remain with them forever.

"We had always thought John was special because he was ours. But over the last three months I have found out how special he was to so many people," Cicely O'Bryant said.

"When I traveled down New Dudley Street and saw the sign on the school building I thought it was great because my father deserved it," said 27-year-old Paul O'Bryant who has worked at Northeastern for five years as a staff assistant in Cabor Gym.

"My father did a lot for schools in Boston, he would never fold. He was a strong black man who would always finish what he started. He fought for his beliefs."

## The choice is yours

If we have one inalienable right in this country, it is the right to choose. A right cherished and safeguarded by our U.S. Constitution and our government. On Tuesday November 3, 1992, we will get the opportunity to exercise that right of choice.

On that day the country will head to the ballot box to vote on who should be president of our country.

Each vote will be a statement of choice and a symbol of the Democracy we live in. A Democracy built on the principle of government by the people and for the people.

Thus, we the people should uphold the Democratic process by voting and exercising our right to choose.

Apathy and indifference will not accomplish anything. Your vote is your voice, your chance to be heard, your opportunity to help change things, and above all it is yout right!

So. November 3rd you can choose apathy or you can choose to vote; "the choice is

Anthony Coleman is a middler majoring in English.

#### Why we should vote

As African-Ameticans we can no longer depend on "outsiders" to ensure the delivery of goods and services into our communities. I look out into our neighborhoods and I see all of the hopelessness embodied in a statement like "it won't matter if I

I now submit to you that your voting power is needed to create more jobs, better education, cleaner and safer neighborhoods and economic development.

The only way things ate going to become any better is by yout becoming an active

> the students and staff of the African-Amer

participant in the political process of this country.

In order to accomplish this goal you must first register to vote. More importantly, you should exercise your right to do so.

Since the state of affairs in our communities is dependent upon our political participation, we have a moral obligation to out people to vote.

If we do not then we are in direct betrayal of our community.

Tanya Francois is a senior majoring in political science.

# SIRRE

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#### Welcome Class of 1997

By Dean Keith Motley African-American Institute Director



Dean Keith Motley about to begin a journey that I hope can be related to a new experience. will be an express ride to your dreams. Sign up for tutoring even if you think There will be many challenges along

process now of arming yourself with the correct knowledge, the road to On behalf of graduation will be a lot smoother.

Utilize the services of the African-American Institute. Visit the AAI library to take a journey into history ican Institute, or to learn how to use a library I would like to correctly. Find out who your AAI welcome you counselor is so that you can insure to Northeas- that you are enrolled in the right tern Univer- courses, to talk about career goals, or sity. You are just to release some of the stress that

Continued on Page 6.

#### A word from Dean Ella

By Dean Ella Robertson Dean of MSA

On behalf of the Office of Minority . Student Affairs, I would like to welcome you to Northeastern University. You have made a wise academic choice. In order to . make the most of that choice, you must learn to use all of the support services .

The next nine months will mark major changes in your young life. I hope that these changes will be positive.

I am, and will always be, concerned with your progress here at Northeastern. To that end, the Office of Minority Student Affairs is prepared to assist you with the following:

- Leave of absence, course withdrawals and university withdrawals
- Transfer credit from other institutions
- Identification of students with deficient academic probation
- Determination of eligibility for sophomore
- Authorization of summer corrective work
- Monitoring freshman course progress midway through each academic quarter
- Freshman "Add/Drop" during registration

The Office of Minority Student Affairs is located in 203 Ell. If things get confusing...lf you're not quite sure...lf things don't sound right, stop by. We can make a difference.

## Symphony Barbers - cutting hair with a conscience

By Byron P. Hurt Onyx Staff

When most black men get their hair cut they come out looking and feeling like a new man. But when you leave Symphony Barbers you might come out thinking like one

It could be the Brown vs. Board of Education picture that hangs from the wall reminding you that attending a predominantly white college is now possible. Or it could be a Malcolm X videotape that makes you realize that not much has changed since the Civil Rights movement of the 1960's. Not only do barbers at the shop provide quality ser-vice – they make a statement.

"You're gonna learn something when you're hete," said owner Todd Martin. "People ask me if that is a picture of Sade on the wall," he said, pointing to a black and white framed picture of Billie Holliday. "They don't know who it is until I tell them."

Located diagonally across the street from the Orange line at 410 Mass. Ave., Symphony Barbets, opened shop in May 1992. Three barbers, with 27 years of haircutting experience among them, get customers in the chaits quickly and out of

the chairs with a 'slammin' cut. And while you're in the chair you get that back home feel that you may have thought was lost forevet. Because of the shop's location, Symphony Barbers gets a lot of its' cus-tomers from area colleges.

"When I was in barber

"When I was in barber school I always wanted to open up a shop near Northeastern," said Martin. "It's easy to get to because it's right in the middle of the community."

To attract more college students Martin and his partners decided to charge students below regular price. Not to alienate the non-student community, the barbershop offers a special Wednesday discount for \$8.75.



PERFECT FADE: Eddie Bishop adds finishing touches to a young-ster's haircut. Photo by Byron Hurt

"The Wednesday special is for the general public because not everybody goes to school, said Martin. "We want to keep things in range."

To avoid that Wednesday rush barber Eddie Bishop advises to get there bright and early.
"The morning is the best

"The morning is the best time to come to the shop," said Bishop. "From 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. is the busiest time of the day," he said.

But whatever time you get

thete you can expect courteous, clean and petsonable service said the barbers. "Things don't get out of line here," Bishop said. "Everyone gets 100% when they get in the chair."



Todd Martin (left) wanted his shop to attract students and the community.

Photo by Byron Hurt

#### **Symphony Barbers**

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John Bagely Rick Fox Sherman Douglass Bill Hatcher

## Nina's Hair Studio All that and more

By Shanta R. White Onyx Staff

Every year fteshmen girls come to Nottheastern and are faced with the same question – where can I get my hair done? Well ladies, the answet to this timeless question is Nina's Hait Studio.

Nina's, located at 359 Columbus Ave., is all of that and then some, according to NU women. The studio does everything from pressing to wraps and french twists. Vanessa, one of Nina's "famed" hairdressers has been with the studio for two years. Most of the customers "know what they're looking for," said Vanessa, "and ask mostly for wraps, updos, beehives, and humps."

Studio owner Nina Marshall said she always wanted to do hair. Marshall statted looking for her salon after graduating from Wilfred Academy. Marshall found what she was looking for, when, one day she was "driving down the street looking for a commercial space in the South End" when she happened to see the location of what is now Nina's.

Like most establishments in the country, Marshall's hair studio has been affected by the slow economy.

"This yeat has been slow since school started, and the economy doesn't help any," said Marshall, "but other than that, business has been doing well since the day the doors of the studio were opened."

The basement studio gets a wide

range of customers – from college students to senior citizens.

If your hair is not the problem then don't be dismayed. Nina's does more than just hairstyling. You can get a manicure done by Sandra, ot, if it's a curling iron that you need you can buy one for a reasonable price. Tuesdays and Wednesdays are "studio specials" and you can get a touch-up, condition, colot, cut wrap, and style for \$45. And if you're looking for a carefree cutl and a cut you can't beat Nina's price of \$65.

Not only is the service good, but so is the company. You can watch the soaps as you wait and the entire staff at Nina's make the experience seem like a family gathering.

#### Studio hours

Tuesday - Friday 9:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. (617) 437-1653



Nina & staff pose in front of the 2-yearold establishment. Photo by Shanta R. White

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#### Holloway

Continued from page 1.

who has a master's degree in Counseling Psychology and is also a PhD. candidate in Counseling Psychology.

"I'm going miss shooting the breeze with him," said Reginald Sullivan, a student at NU.

Although he'll be missed at the institute, his former boss knows he basn't seen the last

knows he hasn't seen the last of Holloway.

"You haven't left, you're just moving up the street,' Director of the AAI, Dean



Shawn Giguere



OCTOBER 2, 1992 - LIFTING AS THEY CLIMB: NU students give back to the community by helping out at Rosie's Place in Roxbury, a shelter for battered women. The service project marked the end of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Iota Chapter's "Delta Week" and was co-sponsored by Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc.,

### Student on the move Giguere role model for engineering students

By Garvey McIntosh Onyx Staff

Perhaps one of Northeastern's most promising students, Shawn Giguere, an electrical engineering major, has been appointed as one of only two Northeastern Engineering Teacher's Assistants for the 1992-93 school year. Giguere will assist in teaching calculus classes for the fall quartet and students of color are excited about the oppottunity to learn from the

"Sometimes I can't understand the pro-fessors," said Omarao Brown, one of Giguere's students.

Shawn takes time out from his regulat course load to really help his engineering students."

A 1989 graduate of Woonsocket High School in Rhode Island, Giguere has received many awards for high academic achievement while at Nottheastern. The Ralph Bunche and DuPont scholar hopes his academic success and influence as a TA will help his students to develop

their skills and realize their

potential.
"I jumped at the opportunity to become an undergraduate TA to help freshman in Calculus," said Giguere. "I feel that I have received an excellent education at Northeastern and I want to help other students to strive beyond their own expectations.

Although Giguere stresses the importance of academics to his students he also wants them to realize that they have a social responsibility to give back to the their community.

"Each student should take it upon themselves as a positive force in the black community," he said. "We have to leatn to gain knowledge and then share our wealth of knowledge with others."

Giguere is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., National Society of Black Engineers, an active participant in the NUPRIME program. He also takes time out to teach area youths at the Paul Robeson Institute.





SEPTEMBER 23, 1992 – TOO COOL TO SKATE: Seven brothers and a sista at last month's skating party at Chez Vous Roller Skating Rink in Dorchester.

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#### MouthWatch

"To make his way the Negro must have firm resolve an persistence. He must gear himself to hard work all the way. He can never let up. He can never have too much preparation and training. He must be a strong competitor. He must adhere staunchly to the basic principle that anything less than full equality is not enough. If he compromises on that principle his soul is dead."

Dr. Ralph J. Bunche

"Come on, Spike, you're making good money, if you don't like it go back."

Two white men to Spike Lee when he refused to take off his hat for the National Anthem at a New York Knicks game.

"The potential in this country is so great that it makes me tremble and weep to see it go awry."

Maya Angelou

"The best thing about rap is it's a last minute warning, the final call, like the Nation of Islam paper—a last plea for help on the countdown to Armageddon."

Public Enemy's Chuck D. on today's rap music.

"Black Americans must begin to accept a larger share of responsibility for their lives. For too many years we have been crying that racism and oppression have to be fought on every front. But to fight any battle takes soldiers who are strong, healthy, committed, well-trained and confident. I don't believe that we will produce strong soldiers by mourning about what the enemy has done to us."

Jesse Jackson

# The challenges of a post-apartheid OAU

By Pro. Kwamina Panford Special to the Onyx

Recent global developments including the collapse of the Soviet Union, the Persian Gulf War, the New World Order plus the ending of the Cold War have overshadowed a significant landmark achievement and a series of catastrophes in Africa. An African event of historic proportion was the signing at Abuja (the new Nigerian administrative capital) of the necessary protocol documents by African heads of state leading to the establishment of an African Economic Community (AEC). The significance of this event is of course in sharp contrast with the spread of AIDS in some parts of Africa; the mounting debt crises and the increasing influence of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the US Agency for International Development (US AID).

The Abuja Summit & Africa's Economic Community

An African event likely to have gone unnoticed by the rest of the world was the 28th anniversary of the birth of the Organization of African Unity. This was appropriately observed in June 1991 at Abuja with the signing of the protocol papers for the founding of an AEC of African States in the year 2000. The Abuja summit was also important for other reasons too. It was the most attended summit of African heads of state held outside Addis Ababa, the Ethiopian Headquarters of the OAU. The summit indicated a crucial turning point in the long and arduous route to achieving the dreams of African leaders like Ghana's Kwame Nkrumah, Egypt's Garmel Nasser, Guinea's Sekou Toure and Modibo Keita of Mali. This dream was conceived together with the liberation of Africa from colonialism in the 1950's.

The irony of current efforts at African economic unity is that they may erroneously be as usual attributed to external influences or developments such as the creation of European Economic Community (EEC) 1992, unification talks between North and South Korea and other economic

regional groupings outside Africa. Here one only needs to recall the fact that long before Europeans and Koreans talked of unity, Africans led by Nkrumah were demonstrating the political and economic benefits of a United Africa in world economic and political affairs.

The Abuja summit also makes it worthwhile to recount some of the popular myths used to counter the notion of African states creating a single economic bloc like the EEC. Some of these were notions that there are too many states, official languages and currencies in Africa. All these were thought to make the idea of unity an impossible dream. Such arguments ignore certain facts of life outside Africa. One glaring example is the fact there are more official languages spoken within the EEC than within Africa.

Thus, the first step towards eventual African economic unity · the Abuja summit · should put the case of "doubting Thomases" to rest once and for all. However, bearing in mind the history of African political unity, one has to jubilate in moderation and urge all Africans to forge ahead with accomplishing total economic unity by the year 2000.

#### Africa's First Secretary General

The election of the first African United Nations Secretary-General also speaks to the partial success of the African group within the international community. But some skeptics question his choice as a "true African representative." The test of Mr. Boutros-Ghali's appointment will be the extent to which he promotes genuine African interest by bringing African concerns like the rapid end to apartheid in South Africa, the abatement of Africa's debt and development crises and the UN becoming the champion of African/Third World causes like in the 1960's and the 1970's. In connection with the last point, it would be interesting to watch how Mr. Boutros-Ghali operates within President Bush's conception to the "new world order."

Continued on Page 11.

#### Welcome Continued from page 2.

you are doing well in a course. Tutoring can be the difference between an A and a B.

Support the various cultural programs developed by the staff of Amilcar Cabral Student Center. These programs can be an enriching experience that will be an important part of your personal development. Enroll in an African-American Studies course. You have been blessed with the opportunity to learn from some of the most brilliant scholars in the world. Take advantage of it.

Join a student organization. Each of you should become a working member of some student organization during your tenure here at Northeastern University. You can develop skills that will be vety important to your future endeavors as a result of a positive organization experience.

Finally, these are exciting times for all of us here at Northeastern. The AAI will be renamed in honor of the late Vice-President of Student Affairs John D. O'Bryant. 1993 will mark the 25th anniversary of the John D. O'Bryant African-American Institute. There will be many opportunities to volunteer time, plan events, learn and participate. Stay tuned to The Onyx-Informer for future information. Most importantly, YOU ARE HERE and ... the legacy continues.

Let's continue to combine our muscle and brain power in a positive

Again, welcome.

# Reviewin' Th

## Introducing Mary J. Bobby's Back

Debut CD sets the stage for new performer

The 411 is out on Mary J. Blige and everybody's saying "she's definitely got it goin' on." Mary J.'s debut CD What's the 411? has her fans talking about and singing the lyrics sung by the 20 year-old vocalist who can sing with the sultry soulfulness of Anita Baker and rap with the streer smarts and eloquence of Queen Latifah.

Mary J. Blige's success all started while she was

herself in a tiny little recording booth at a shopping mall. Her stepfather, realizing that the youngster just might have what it takes to make it as a singer, gave the tape to R&B singer Jeff Redd who then handed it over to the people over at Uptown Records. Blige then went on to sing backup for Father M.C. on his gold debut single "I'll do for you."

Since the release of her single "You Remind Me" from the Strictly Business soundtrack, Mary J. Blige has skyrocketed to the top of the charts with follow up hits "Real Love," slow cuts "I Don't Want to Do Anything"



recording Mary J. Blige: Queen of hip hop soul?

and a remake of Chaka Khan's 'Sweet Thing.'

Produced by Devante Swing (Jodeci), Sean "Puffy" Combs, Mark Morales (of the Fat Boys), Mark C. Rooney and Tony Dofat, Mary J. Blige successfully bridges the gap between R&B and hip hop, thus earning the title by many as the "queen of hip hop soul.'

Guest appearances on the CD include Busta Rhyme, "Intro Talk;" K-Ci (Jodeci) "I Don't Want To Do Anything," and Grand Puba on the title track "What's the 4il?"

-The Onyx Informer Review

Orchard Park native strives for staying power

Just when most people thought Bobby Brown was on his way out the back door -he's back on the scene and on the charts with his long-waited CD entitled Bobby.

It's been four long years since his Don't Be Cruel album took the country by storm with hits "My Prerogative," "Roni" and "Every Little Step." Now Brown is looking to expand his super-stardom as an entertainer with new hits and new wife Whitney Houston. Brown and Houston team up on the track "We've got Something In Common" proving they are as compatible in the studio as they are in their relationship.

Brown uses a mixture of ballads and hip hop on Bobby

to showcase his versatility as a performer. It appears he pays more attention to singing this time around on tracks "Two Can Play That Game," "Storm Away," and "Good Enough."

His slow jams don't quite live up to the standards set by Don't Be Cruel but with enough air play they certainly have a chance "grow on you." With heavyweight producers Teddy Riley, and L.A. and Baby-face on his side, Bobby has all of the ingredients to be just as successful as his first album, proving to all critics that Brown has the staying power to last in an industry that keeps pumping out new, competitive talent.

-The Onyx Informer Review



Bobby Brown: latest CD puts him back in spotlight.

#### By Miguel Enwerem Special to the Onyx Informer

As true as it is not to judge a book by its cover, the same line of thought should apply to film. Do not judge a film by its TV

Fresh from seeing Sarafina!, a film based on the play by the same title, one could not help thinking how utterly wrong it is to preconceive that another musical would mean a loss of seven dollars.

Sarafina! is not a normal musical. It fills our hearts with compassion for a people suffering from the immediate effects of a disease they did not create. That disease in South Africa, in America and around the world is known as racism and oppression by a minority, desperate to hold on to an ideology crumbling by the hour.

Filled with compelling performances by virtually every member in its cast, the characters portrayed a people in a setting known well by the coauthor of the screenplay, Mbogeni Ngema. The setting is Soweto, 1976, at a time when children, women and men were being detained, tortured and executed by the so-called South African security forces. The narrative engulfs us in a way that is not too desensitized to the reality of events depicted and has a compassionate warmth open handedly being conveyed to us by a cast out to do justice.

## Sarafina!

Sarafina! . . . fills our hearts with compassion for a people suffering from the immediate effects of a disease they did not create. That disease in South Africa, in America and around the world is known as racism and oppression by a minority, desperate to hold on to an ideology crumbling by the hour.



Twenty-two year-old Leleti Khumalo of Durban, South Africa co-stars with Whoopi Goldberg in ber film debut Sarafinal

Leading this impressive cast is newcomer Leleti Khumalo, a beautiful young actress filled with vibrant energy. Also included in the cast is the internationally renowned singer Miriam Makeba, the ever popular diva Whoopi Goldberg and the co-author of the screenplay, Mbogeni Ngema, playing the challenging role of the Uncle Tom policeman turned against his own people.

The story revolves around a group of school children, who by reason of the very nature of the discourse of events surrounding them, have no choice but to involve themselves in the resistance. This challenges the notion that freedom can only come through passive participation.

Sarafina! is well written and well conceived and allows ample room for the choreography of well executed dance, which transitions carefully

without being abrupt.

This film is well worth the trip the the movies. It is not only a moving story, but it is bound to touch the inner depths of your conscious. This one is definitely not to be missed by those who can still distinguish the word "movie" from the word "film".

Miguel Enwerem is a senior of Emerson College majoring in Film. This review previously oppeared in The Berkeley Beacon, on Emerson College



#### NORTHEASTERN BLACK STUDENT **ASSOCIATION**

2ND ANNUAL

**RUNA-WALKA-JOGATHON** "FINISH ANY WAY YOU CAN" A DAY DESIGNED TO HELP STUDENTS FINISH COLLEGE "ANY WAY IT CAN"

To Benefit the Ignasio St.Rose Scholarship Fund

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1992 (RAIN OR SHINE) 2:00 p.m.

5.6 mile course along the Charles River will start at Lee Pool, Storrow Drive, Boston.



I for one believe that if you give people a thorough understanding of what confronts them and the basic causes that produce it, they'll create their own program and when people create a program, you get action.

Malcolm X

#### Entry:

\$10.00Pre-registration(donation) \$11.00Day of event registration

Mail entry fee, form, and a business size self-addressed stamped envelope to: Northeastern Black StudentAssociation 360 Huntington Ave 255 Ell Center Boston, Ma 02115

#### Deadline:

Entries must be post marked no later than November 1, 1992 (t-shirts first 50 entries)

#### Prizes:

Certificates for all entries Great Sponsor Giveaways!

All Ages Welcome! For more info, call directors Dr. Marc Conley, 437-3451 Quan Smith, 373-6810

Francis .	E
-mrv	Form

Signature\_

I hereby for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims and damages I may have against the sponsors, coordinating groups, end any individuals associated with this evant, and hold them harmless for any and all injuries suffered in connaction with this avant.

Name\_ \_Age\_\_\_\_Sex\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_\_Tel.#\_\_\_\_\_

State Zip

Check o Enclosed find check of 10.00 payable to: Ignasio St. Rose Scholarship Fund Ona o Plaase waive my antira fee. I will obtain \$25 or more in sponsor contributions

## Arguing for the people

#### Attorney takes degree back to the hood

By Azell Murphy Onyx Staff

Anthony Neal enters his office for the second time today. It is around lunch time and a three-hout-old egg sandwich sits in a crumbled brown papet bag on the corner of his desk. He sits down to eat his cold breakfast and shuffles some case files that crowd his desk.

"Yeah, I called the adjuster today, he says no way. It looks like we may end up in court," Neal says to a client who has just peeked into his office. "But have a seat, I'll be with you in a minute."

After working for the a Greater Boston Legal Services for two and a half years, Anthony Neal launched his own legal firm in Boston's South End, the neighbothood where he grew up. Neal left GBLS when he realized a state job did not lend him the freedom he needed.

"As as lawyer you should be able to choose the cases you will and will not take," says Neal.

Now that Neal is his own boss, he admits that although he has about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 120 cases pending at one time, he never tepresents a person ot company accused of discrimination.

Glona Rodrigez was furious when Loews Cinema fired het. "My boss was tacist, said Rodtiquez, mothet of four." She would always say negative things about Hispanics, she said."

"I heard that when Gloria was hired the assistant manager turned to another employee and said, 'Oh no, not another Puetto Rican.' I was happy to take the case because this was not the fitst time I had heard about racial discrimination by Loews Cinema

and I wanted to hit them where they would feel it – in their pocketbook," said Neal.

Rodtigez had worked at Loews Cinema for four months as a cashier-concession salesperson and was preparing to apply for an assistant managet position when her supervisor and assistant managet tidiculed het Hispanic heritage.

"You'll never become assistant managet because the customers need to be able to understand what an assistant manager is saying," Rodrigez's supervisor told het when she ovetheard Rodrigez telling a co-worket about her game plan to apply for the assistant

"We have to push these types of cases and sometimes you win, sometimes you lose. As long as you change the behavior of the company in the long run by filing suit, then we have accomplished something."

- Anthony Neal

manager position.

Rodriger also alleged that het assistant manager would throw pens at het instead of handing her one like she would do to all the white employees.

With Neal as her attorney Loews Cinema te-hired Rodriger and compensated her an undisclosed amount, according to Neal. Rodriger believes that if she had hired another attorney things would not have turned out the way they did. "He got me everything I wanted and then some," she said

When Neal was in the fourth grade, he and his family

moved to a public housing development in South Boston. But fear of racial violence thete nearly drove Neal, his mother and brothers and sisters out of their home.

Neal remembers the welcome he teceived from his white neighbors who were less than pleased with the black family who had just moved on the block. His first night in his new home, Neal's mother went grocery shopping and left Neal home alone. It was not very long before Neal heard what sounded to him like a glass bottle crashing. As Anthony peeked around the corner he saw six white teen-

age boys throwing soda bottles and rocks into the Neal's home through the living toom window into the Neal living toom that had been set up just eatlier that aftemoon.

Twenty-two yeats later, Neal graduated from the University of Texas with a law degree and a mission to fight racial and sexual discrimination.

In 1988, Neal hired
an attorney and filed his
own suit, against New
England School of Law
on charges of discri-mination.

Although Neal lost the case, he believes the suit still impacted the way New England School of Law treats people of color.

"We have to push these types of cases and sometimes you win, sometimes you lose. As long as you change the behavior of the company in the long run by filing suit, then we have accomplished something," said Neal.

The suit, filed in Suffolk Supetior Court on April 10, 1988, alleges that security guards harassed and insulted Neal while he was researching a case in the school library.

According to case files, a security guard demanded that Neal show his bar card to prove that he was an attomey. Shortly after, a professor at the school told Neal that he may have been better served if he used the Boston Public Library. Later, as Neal was photocopying the research he had done, five or six Boston Police officets escorted him from he building.

Personal experience is one of the driving forces behind Neal's success in helping people who seek his service. People like Kevin Batboza who for four years paid \$90 a month to support a child that blood tests had proven was not his own.

He also catried family health insurance for this child even though the child's biological father had been identified by the court. Barboza was a victim of a 1777 law that presumed a husband had to be the father of a child conceived during wedlock. But Batboza maintained that he was not the father of his wife's baby.

Barboza had three attorneys before Neal. "I stopped using all the others because they did not seem to care about my case at all," said Barboza. "They thought that I was just another black man who did not want to take care of my child. But Neal was different, he believed me and knew

where I was coming from."

"He seemed in control of the situation from the first day I called him. He asked me the facts of the case and I told him. He was very levelheaded."

The court granted Barboza a divorce and the Department of Revenue compensated him \$5,670. He was also relieved of ever having to pay child support for that child again.

"Sometimes it takes a black attorney who can identify with racism and discrimination to push cases through the system, "said Neal. "If we don't who will?"

Neal works seven days a week, sometimes 10 hours a day. He doesn't make time to fish or mow a lawn and, at 34 he has never married. And according to past clients Anthony is still mastering the idiosyncrasies of his careet.

Sometimes it is weeks before clients get a photocopy of some important paperwork. Sometimes clients get no copy at all.

It was more like ten minutes before Neal called on the client who peeked his head into the office. In the meantime, he scurried around looking for some piece of paper that could have been anywhere among the paperwork that crowds his desk and office floor. It turned up neatly tucked away in a file cabinet.

#### This Month In History

October 3, 1956 - Nat King Cole becomes first African-American performer to host his own TV show.

October 4, 1864 - New Orleans Tribune becomes the first African-American newspaper.

October 16, 1984 - Bishop Desmund Tutu wins the Nobel Peace Prize

October 17, 1888 - Capital Savings Bank of Washington, D.C., the first bank for African-Americans is organized.

October 28, 1981 - Edward M. McIntyre elected first African-American of Augusta, Ga.

October 30, 1974 - Muhummad Ali wins heavyweight boxing title.

October 30, 1979 - Richard Arrington elected first African-American mayor of Birmingham, Ala.



October 14, 1992 - HEAR YE, HEAR YE: Dean Motley addresses students in the Cabral Center during a recent town meeting. Motley challenged students to commit themselves to excellence during the AAI's 25th year at Northeastern.

## The New Bostonian's Guide to Good Times

(All directions start from the inbound Northeastern MBTA stop)

Miss mom's black-eyed peas and collard greens? Try Bob the Chef's (Home of Soul Food) 604 Columbus Avenue. 536-6204.

Turn right and walk down Huntington Avenue to Massachusetts Avenue. Turn right onto Mass. Avenue and continue straight until you reach Columbus Avenue. Turn right onto Columbus. Bob's is one block down on the left. Walking time: 10 minutes

Check out Ancient Egypt artifacts, Kingdoms of Nubia and the history behind the Egyptian Pyramids at the Nubian Gallery in the Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave. 267-9300. The Museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4:45 Tuesday thru Sunday and is free after 4 p.m. on Wednesdays. Discounts are offered for college students with proper ID.

Turn left and walk straight down Huntington Avenue past Punters Pub. Museum is huge grey building on the right.

Need to get that DOO done? Danny's His and Hers, Hair Salon, 189 Mass Ave. 247-6022.

Turn right and walk down Huntington Avenue 10 Mass Avenue and continue straight up the street. Danny's is on the left. Walking time: 5 minutes

Images Hair Salon, 418 Columbus Ave., 859-8815.

Turn right and walk down Huntington Avenue. Turn right onto Mass Avenue and continue straight until Mass Ave and Columbus Avenue intersect. Turn left onto Columbus and walk about 6 blocks. Images is on the right. Walking time: 15 minutes.

Symphony Barbers, 410 Massachusetts Ave., 536-6747 Turn right and walk down Huntington Avenue. Turn right onto Mass Avenue and continue past the Orange Line MBTA station. Cross Mass Avenue and walk a thousand feet. Walking time: 5 minutes.

Nina's Hair Salon, 359 Columbus Ave., 437-1653

Turn right and walk down Huntington Avenue. Turn right onto Mass Avenue and continue straight until Columbus Avenue intersect. Turn left onto Columbus and walk about 3 blocks. Walking time 10 minutes.

Want to get in touch with African and African-American culture? Check out Nubian Notion. (Black-owned variety store where you can buy cultural items like books, posters, artwork, leather goods, sweatshirts, music and much more) 41-47 Warren Ave. 442-2622.

Nubian Notion can be reached by public transportation. Catch the inbound Dudley

Square bus at Ruggles Station (Ruggles Station is behind the African American Institute) and get off at Dudley Square.

#### LOOKING FOR MUSIC?

Like hip-hop, reggae, jazz? Northeastern's radio station WRBB 104.9 FM is a 24-hour service that offers everything from hip-hop and reggae during the day to slow R&B at night and alternative music in between.

Like R&B? Try WILD 1090 AM

Progressive jazz? Try WCDJ 96.9 FM

Up late studying and want to hear a variety of R&B music? Check out 1330 AM on Thursday mornings between 12 a.m. and 5 a.m. It's the newest urban contemporary station on the block programmed by Class of 1992 NU graduate Derrick Greene, program director; Class of 1991 NU graduate Frank Holder, general manager; and NU student Matt White, Music Director.

## Exposing a nation

Journalism professor looks into Nigeria media

By Prof. Kelley Chunn Special to the Onyx

I may never have another journalistic experience as exciting, demanding and nourishing as the one I faced in Nigeria.

I started dreaming about going to Africa while attending New York University. A typical three week tour of five African countries would not satisfy me. I wanted to live and work on the ancient continent and discover what made it tick. Former CBS correspondent, Randy Daniels, and his bold young company, Jacaranda, made my dream live.

/ I met Randy Daniels at the 1982 National Association of Black Journalists Convention in Detroit. The theme of that year's gathering stressed the importance of covering and understanding the news of underdeveloped countries – particularly African countries.

I listened to Randy talk about his struggle as chief of the CBS African Bureau. He told of his ongoing battles to get stories about African affairs on the network evening news. As long as a war broke out, a coup erupted or children were starving, African nations got air time. But, according to Randy, the analysis—the cause of those events—were missing. The networks, never mind the local stations, rarely took time to put Africa's people and their problems into perspective.

I understood Randy's frustration with broadcast news. I felt frustrated

The Nigerian government offered Randy a way out of this dilemma. The administration of President She-hu Shagari commissioned the CBS reporter to evaluate Nigeria's network news operation. Randy surveyed the

system, suggested changes and then the government contracted him to implement those changes.

It was a thrilling opportunity. Randy Daniels said farewell to CBS and Jacaranda was born. He hired a team of committed and adventurous television writers, producers, directors, camera people and engineers to help Nigeria develop its network news.

That was the story Randy told when our paths crossed in Detroit. I'd heard it all before. Longing to go, I had already inquired about the project, and rushed in my resume to Jacaranda. My homework put me miles ahead of the pack of journalists who surrounded Randy after he'd finished speaking at the convention.

We met. I told him I was excited about such a golden opportunity to

live and work in a foreign land. To test my skills. To share my knowledge. To learn. To grow.

I was dissatisfied with commercial television. I felt stifled at WBZ-TV in Boston. Having worked at Boston's three major local stations, I knew the standard operating procedures. The same treadmill. The wild races to air thirty second pictures of unimportant two-alarm fires just because we'd shot spectacular video. The lack of depth in covering issues. The meaningless live shots. Most painful was the dearth of black faces on the screen and inside the newsroom. Producing a two minute tribute to Martin Luther King Jr. every January 15th on the six o'clock news was not enough for me. It was time to move on.

Jacaranda offered an alternative. Here was an opportunity to use my journalistic skills in a meaningful way. Here was a chance to help a country build a communications network. Here was a way to test ideas and influence news programming by, for and about African people.

Ironically, the Nigerian government made all of those lofty goals almost impossible to achieve. I found operating effectively in Nigerian newsrooms even more difficult that those in the United States. Nigeria was more frustrating because the Shagari Administration had brought Jacaranda to Nigeria to help make programming and policy changes. Yet, we found ourselves hamstrung because the government failed to provide us with the strong support we needed to successfully carry out our assignment. We soon learned it was not in the best interest of the government to back us because our recommendations would have lessened the use of Nigerian television news as a propaganda tool for the local and national administrations. TV news programs invariably led with Shagari whether or not what he said or did was newsworthy. Other politicians also monopolized air time, leaving little room for genuine news events and exploration of the issues affecting viewers.



## Stripping the myth

By Damola Jegede Onyx Staff

In this month of October, year 1992, many Americans celebrated the Quincentennial Anniversary of Christopher Columbus' "Discovery" (and I use the term loosely) of the Americas.

About a year ago, I attended a lecture given by Angela Davis, a civil rights activist. She made me look at Columbus in a very different light.

First off, Columbus discovered nothing, instead he was discovered by the indigenous people of North America, Native Indians.

Secondly, his arrival on America's shores was the beginning of not only the disenfranchisement of the true Americans of this country, but the enslavement of my own people - the Africans.

Yes, folks, we are talking rape, plunder, pillage, depravation of family and ancestral ties, and robbed a people of their roots, culture, names, language and religion.

This is what we should remember on Columbus Day, instead of upholding this man as a saviot and courageous hero.

The fact of the matter is that he did not know where he was. He was lost. He thought he was in India, y'all.

Although our society today would have us forget this, the state of Native

American Indians and African-Americans today is attributable to what Columbus began centuries ago.

Overcrowded reservations and poverty is what those who once roamed free and proud in this country are now contending with.

My own people, who came from the same situation on the African continent are today dealing with a lost sense of self, bitter anger, drugs, poverty and violence.

Yes, there are those of us who have overcome obstacles, but unfortunately, those who have are a minority.

Even those who escape must still deal with tacism in all forms and at every level.

Brothers being stopped, beaten and killed by the police for no substantial reason other than skin color.

 Being followed in a department store.

- Being asked by police if you are lost because you are walking in a predominantly white neighborhood.

- Our leaders in government are investigated three to four times as often as their white counterparts.

These are a few of many concrete examples of the kinds of racism we are dealing with today.

Needless to say, I did nothing celebratory on October 12. What did

#### A Nation's media Continued from page 10.

Despite those obstacles, Jacaranda pushed the Nigerian Television Authority to adopt a policy of development news which seeks to inform and enlighten the public about issues affecting the progress of developing countries.

The exclusion of such news stemmed mainly from fear of reprisal from the government. When I urged producers of the nightly network news to report special series on the progress of Shagari's "Green Revolution" to revitalize agriculture, or explore rampant corruption in various federal ministries, or investigate the power authorities failure to provide electricity, producers were enthusiastic, but said management would not allow coverage of these potentially explosive storiesparticularly during a presidential election year. The reports would make the government look worse than it already did, and the journalists would lose their jobs.

Aside from the fear, I encountered apathy at the Nigerian Television Authority. I met many journalists who had a strong commitment to their craft. They were tired of doing public relations for the government. They were also tited of fighting the system, and so settled for the status quo. For other NTA staffers — especially news directors and program managers — this was a civil service job, a paycheck. Rarely did they let controversial

subjects air.

At the capital city of Lagos, we hashed out story ideas and developed various strategies for convincing management of the need for coverage of important issues. We struggled with changes in layout and design of television newscasts. We improved news writing and editing skills.

In addition to our endeavors at network stations in Lagos and elsewhere around the country, we worked with journalists at the government's TV College in the beautiful Nigerian city of Jos. N.T.A staff from all over the nation go there to increase their proficiency. Here again, we confronted uncooperative management, as well as equipment and logistical problems.

Yet, we managed to help out Nigerian colleagues produce three in depth stories concerning troubles in much needed local market.

Jacatanda also stressed the need to strive for excellence in writing: to be accurate: to be fair: to be certain your pictures fit your words.

Jacaranda's journalistic mission in Nigeria has only just begun. However, we Americans can only accomplish so much. Major changes in news quality and content will not come until Nigeria gives its television medium teer rein. Only then can Nigetian television meet its fullest potential as a positive instrument for development.

Prof. Chunn teaches Public Relation Principles in the journalism department at Northeastern.

#### ▲ OAU

Continued from page 6.

Current OAU/African Challenges

The work of the new UN Secretary-General in promote the welfate of Africans would also be made more difficult by the increased emphasis by the IMF, World Bank, and US AID types of organizations on the role of the private sector in overcoming Africa's economic crises. The vigorous emphasis on international trade as the sole panacea to Africa's lack of economic development, of course, ignores the unfair terms of trade and economic injustices Africans have endured as a result of the export of raw materials and agricultural produce imposed on them through colonialism. As the World Bank and similar institutions have recently admitted, the economic prospects for Africans will continue to be gloomy so long as the process for African raw materials continue to fall on the world market.

Since this problem directly affects the material living conditions of Africans, the ability of Mr. Boutros-Ghali to collaborate with the OAU and other global institutions to improve Africa's benefits from world trade can be an additional measure of his true commitment as the "African" UN Secretary-General.

Africans' concerted efforts to improve their economies is also being undermined by the methods of operation of the IMF, World Bank and US AID types and their insistence that African countries adopt individualized solutions to their common problems. Hence while individual governments are urged to negotiate on single

country basis, the western countries and Japan adopt solidly united fronts through the "Gtoup of Seven," the EEC, the Paris and London Conferences." Thus the West and Japan are united at negotiations and African countries are divided and bargain from a position of weakness. This is a major hutdle that the OAU together with the cooperation of Mr. Boutros-Ghali have to overcome in the 1990's.

The economic challenges facing Africans have become accentuated by the recent departure from the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) of Dr. Adedeji Adebayo, one of the prominent champions of a humane approach to Africa's economic development. The OAU led by

Secretary-General Salim Salim, should make every effort to ensure that the work of the ECA to humanize Africa's response to 1MF and World Bank conditions for granting loans are not only sustained, but expanded in the future. This is crucial to mitigating the enormous human suffering that results from the adoption of economic recovery program inspired by the 1MF and World Bank.

Today while over 30 Aftican countries are implementing IMF/World Bank programs, simultaneously 28 African countries are officially classified as the poorest in the world roles events call for an economically aggressive post-apartheid OAU which expands its mandate beyond political decolonization. With the viral end of

official apartheid in South Africa, the OAU's usefulness should be evaluated by its capacity to actively assist African governments to negotiate more acceptable and humane policies and programs vis-a-vis the lMF, World Bank and similar institutions. Specifically, the OAU and ECA should support African to resist these institutions' debilitating social economic and ecological effortsincreased unemployment, inferior education for African youth, inadequate health care and also importantly, the rapid erosion of Africa's little industrial base developed in the 1960s and 1970s.

This piece has been reproduced courtesy of African Link Magazine

#### WHERE I'M COMING FROM

By Barbara Brandon



## e are o



HANGING WITH MR. COOPER: starting (i. to r.) Holly Robinson, Dawnn Lewls and Mark Curry is among the new wave of African-American talent to hit the T.V. screen.

#### BLACK FACT

The late John D. O'Bryant was the first African-American to be appointed a vice-president at Northeastern University. He served as Vice-President of Student Affairs until his death July 3, 1992.

I am a descendant of African people therefore I am an African. I live in America.

I work in America.

I play in America.

I'll die and be laid to rest in America.

But, I am and will always be an African.

My people are Africans. We live on this side of the world, in America.

As Americans we must follow the rules and laws of America.

We must learn the American system, and how it works. Learn how to make it work for (Me) my people... I, represent my people.

This society is organized, we must look at the organization to see what is organized to do.

Is it organized for (me) my people? ls it organized against (me) my people?

As Africans do we become a part of an American organization?

That part of a part that keeps another part going so that the whole organization is moving in the direction the leaders of the organization are directing it to go

Are the leaders, Leading or Ruling?

Author unknown

This is a public broadcast announcement:

In the 1990's 1 think African-Americans are seeing something new and promising. Something I would call a modem day renaissance period.

As African-Americans express ourselves more, we are seeing how talented our people are. Now, unlike the Harlem Renaissance era, we have a new twist to liven it all up television.

It's a new age for the African-American entertainer. One that includes names such as Byron Allen, Tony Brown, Arsenio Hall, Montell Williams, Oprah Winfrey, Patti Labelle, Martin Lawrence and many more. They are starring in just about every facet of the television industry. Shows that range from drama to comedy, from news to talk shows, and from game shows to movies.

There is no doubt that these shows are proof that African-Americans are in there and in there to stay, and, as the theme song to the syndicated sitcom "The Jeffersons" put it; 'We're moving on up.'

African-Americans have

positively define ourselves instead of being defined by

As African-Americans begin to burst on the scene of the television airwaves - just don't find yourself turning on and tuning in too much without first picking up a book. My only fear is that we as a people will begin to feel content in our surroundings and stop striving and fighting for what is naturally ours.

By that I mean allowing ourselves to feel relaxed with seeing a small percentage of African-Americans achieve when we need to promote the success of our entire race as leaders and trailblazers.

When you look at all the obstacles preventing the progress of African-Americans, you must give credit where credit is due. We have come a long way but we have a long way to go.

Let us keep in mind that the best solution is organized revolution; something we must physically, emotionally and mentally prepare for. That, my friends, is the one thing that will not be televised.

We are posting a listing of where to tune in, in the case of an emergency.

Fox television: In Living Color at 8 p.m. Fox television: ROC at 8:30 p.m. Mondays:

CBS: Evening Shade at 8

NBC: The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air at 8 p.m. Wednesdays

ABC: In the Heat of the Night at 9 p.m. NBC: Richard Brooksin: Law

and Order 10 p.m. Thursdays

NBC: A Different World at 8

CBS: Street Stories at 9 p.m.

ABC: Family Matters at 8 CBS:

Meshach Taylor: Designing Women at 9 p.m. Saturdays:

NBC: Arentia Walker: Nurses at 9:30 p.m.

This concludes our Broadcast Service Announcement

Scoop Williams



(L. to r.) Martin Lawrence, Tommy Ford, Tichina Arnold, Carl Payne, and Tisha Campbell (front) star in the new

#### Advice Line

l am a sophomore at Northeastern and my freshmen year did not go very well. I fell victim to the parties and fast life that comes with being on your own. Now I am paying the price. I have a very low GPA and I have a reputation as a wild party girl that I would like to shed. How do I go about making my friends realize that I have changed and I am serious about my education now.

Second Chance

Dear Second Chance,

Congratulations on realizing the seriousness of getting your \$75,000 worth out out Northeastern. Too often freshmen are overwhelmed by the freedom that comes along with going off to college and go buck wild.

If you are serious about your future, then just do what you know you have to do. Once your friends see you rejecting their offers to hang out or skip class they will see that you have changed. Maybe some of them will follow your example. There is nothing wrong with having a good time in college after you have done your homework, attended those organization meetings, talked with your co-op advisor and stuff like that.

Don't be tempted by those who are trying to persuade you to do what you know is not right. Remember, misery likes company.